

VZCZCXRO9882  
PP RUEHFK RUEHKSO RUEHNAG RUEHNH  
DE RUEHKO #1629/01 1680155  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 160155Z JUN 08  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5076  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY  
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY  
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY  
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY  
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY  
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 8375  
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 0751  
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 6643  
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 8961  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 2082  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 3919  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2360  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 9916  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0333  
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 TOKYO 001629

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,  
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;  
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;  
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;  
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;  
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;  
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [KPAO](#) [JA](#)

SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - G8 FINANCIAL  
MINISTERIAL, JAPAN-DPRK RELATIONS, AND REFERENDUM ON EU  
TREATY IN IRELAND

¶1. LEAD STORIES: All Monday morning papers led with the  
aftermath of Saturday's major earthquake in northern  
Japan.

¶2. "Statements Alone Cannot Stop Inflation" The liberal  
Mainichi editorialized (6/16): "In a joint statement,  
G8 finance ministers pledged to take a concerted line  
in order to stabilize the global economy. However,  
mutual coordination via words alone will backfire by  
triggering market turmoil. U.S. monetary officials have  
repeatedly made statements warning against a weak  
dollar and inflation. But without taking action to  
follow through on such statements, they will end up  
deepening distrust among market players.... The U.S. is  
urged to keep in mind that a delay on its part in  
hiking interest rates would pose an even more serious  
challenge to the world economy."

¶3. "Despite Differences, Closer Coordination Still  
Needed" The liberal Tokyo insisted in an editorial  
(6/15): "There appears to be policy disarray among G8  
members, with Japan looking at a cut in interest rates,  
while the U.S. remains neutral about its own rates, and  
the Europeans are exploring a rate hike. This could  
lead to a dangerous situation. The financial market  
could conclude that coordination among G8 members is  
not working if each member takes action independently  
in order to prioritize its own domestic economic  
situation."

4. "U.S. Must Not Hurriedly Delist North Korea" The  
conservative Sankei stated in an editorial (6/14):

"Behind North Korea's change in attitude toward the abduction issue is apparently its hope that it can get the U.S. to move quickly to delist it as a state sponsor of terrorism. Pyongyang's release of an antiterrorism statement just ahead of the Japan-DPRK meeting was also done with this in mind.... The Japanese people will be displeased if it turns out the recent round of Japan-DPRK negotiations was aimed at courting U.S. attention. Given the lack of substance in North Korea's proposals, the U.S. is urged not to easily delist North Korea."

¶5. "Identity with Nation-State or with Europe?" The liberal Mainichi wrote in an editorial (6/15): "The shock (regarding Ireland's rejection of the Lisbon Treaty) was palpable, as the nation is viewed by other members as one that has benefited from its membership in the EU. The other members should analyze and deal with the setback in the view that public skepticism about deeper EU integration is a problem common to all of them."

¶6. "France, Germany Concerned about Stalemate in EU Integration" On Ireland's rejection of the Lisbon Treaty, the top-circulation, moderate Yomiuri wrote (6/15): "French President Sarkozy and German Chancellor Merkel are worried not just about a potential impasse over EU organizational reform but also about a halt in EU integration in the long run, which would make it very difficult for Europe to become a locus in the global political and economic worlds."

TOKYO 00001629 002 OF 002

SCHIEFFER